

## **THE CLAIMS**

1. (Previously Presented) A method in a computing device for specifying alternate layouts of an element of a display description specified using a display description language, the method comprising:

providing a display description file that specifies the display description using the display description language that includes:

a definition of the element, the definition of the element occurring only once in the display description file;

a first condition and a first layout for the definition of the element; and

a second condition and a second layout for the definition of the element;  
and

when processing the definition of the element of the provided display description file,

parsing by the computing device the display description file to identify the definition of the element, the first condition and the first layout, and the second condition and the second layout;

retrieving a parameter for controlling the layout of the element;

determining whether the retrieved parameter indicates that the first condition is satisfied or the second condition is satisfied;

displaying the element in accordance with the first layout when it is determined that the first condition is satisfied; and

displaying the element in accordance with the second layout when it is determined that the second condition is satisfied;

wherein layouts and conditions included in the same display description file only specify how to display elements defined in the display description file.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the element has a class and the conditions and layouts are provided in a style for that class.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the conditions and layouts are attributes of an element for that class.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the conditions and layouts are provided as attributes within the definition of the element.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the element has child elements and the layouts specify the layout of the child elements.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein a layout is from a group consisting of vertical layout, horizontal layout, vertical flow layout, and horizontal flow layout.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein a layout specifies a table in which the child elements are to be displayed.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the layout that specifies a table further specifies a cell within the table for a child element.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the layout that specifies a table further specifies that a cell for a child element is to be automatically selected.

10. (Previously Presented) A method performed by a computing device with a storage device and a display for specifying alternate layouts of an element of a display description specified using a display description language, the method comprising:

providing in the storage device a display description file that specifies the display description using the display description language that includes:

a definition of the element, wherein the element has child elements, the definition of the element occurring only once in the display description file;

a first condition and a first layout for the definition of the element; and

a second condition and a second layout for the definition of the element, wherein the layouts specify the layout of the child elements and wherein a layout specifies a table in which the child elements are to be displayed and further specifies a cell within the table for a child element and another cell for another child element is to be automatically selected; and

when processing by the computing device the definition of the element of the provided display description file,

displaying on the display the element in accordance with the first layout when the first condition is satisfied; and

displaying on the display the element in accordance with the second layout when the second condition is satisfied;

wherein layouts and conditions included in the display description file only specify how to display elements defined in the display description file.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the display description language is XML based.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the display description language is HTML based.

13. (Previously Presented) A computer system for specifying alternate layouts of an element of a display description, comprising:

a storage device containing:

a display description file having a definition of the element and condition and layout pairs for the element specified using a display description language, wherein layouts and conditions included in the display description file only specify how to display elements defined in the display description file, the definition of the element occurring only once in the display description file; and

a display component with computer-executable instructions that generates a display based on the display description file by displaying the element in accordance with a layout of a pair when the condition of the pair is satisfied;

a processor for executing the computer-executable instructions of the display component.

14. (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein the element has a class and the condition and layout pairs are specified in a style for that class.

15. (Original) The computer system of claim 14 wherein the condition and layout pairs are attributes of an element for that class.

16. (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein the condition and layout pairs are attributes within the definition of the element.

17. (Original) The computer system of claim 13 wherein the element has child elements and the layouts specify the layout of the child elements.

18. (Original) The computer system of claim 17 wherein a layout is from a group consisting of vertical layout, horizontal layout, vertical flow layout, and horizontal flow layout.

19. (Original) The computer system of claim 17 wherein a layout specifies a table in which the child elements are to be displayed.

20. (Original) The computer system of claim 19 wherein the layout that specifies a table further specifies a cell within the table for a child element.

21. (Original) The computer system of claim 19 wherein the layout that specifies a table further specifies that a cell for a child element is to be automatically selected.

22. (Previously Presented) A computer system for specifying alternate layouts of an element of a display description, comprising:

a storage device containing:

a display description file having a definition of the element and condition and layout pairs for the element specified using a display description language, wherein layouts and conditions included in the display description file only specify how to display elements defined in the display description file, the definition of the element occurring only once in the display description file; and

a display component that generates a display based on the display description file by displaying the element in accordance with a layout of a pair when the condition of the pair is satisfied; and

a processor for executing the computer-executable instructions of the display component

wherein the element has child elements and the layouts specify the layout of the child elements,  
wherein a layout specifies a table in which the child elements are to be displayed,  
and  
wherein the layout that specifies a table further specifies a cell within the table for a child element and another cell for another child element is to be automatically selected.

23. (Original) The computer system of claim 17 wherein each child element is only defined once within the element.

24. (Original) The computer system of claim 23 wherein a layout specifies the layout of the child elements.

25-39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) A computer-readable storage medium containing a data structure of a display description file specifying alternate layouts of an element using a display description language, the data structure comprising:

a definition of an element;  
a first condition and a first layout associated with the definition of the element;  
and

a second condition and a second layout associated with the definition of the element

wherein the element is laid out in accordance with the first layout when the first condition is satisfied and with the second layout when the second condition is satisfied; and

wherein layouts and conditions included in the display description file only specify how to display elements defined in the display description file and wherein

the definition of the element occurring only once in the display description file.

41. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 40 wherein the conditions and layouts are defined in a style associated with the element.

42. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 41 wherein the style is associated with the element based on a class.

43. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 40 wherein the conditions and layouts are defined as attributes of the element.

44. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 40 wherein the element has child elements and the layout specifies the layout of the child elements.

45. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 40 wherein the data structure is specified using a display description language.

46. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 40 wherein the data structure is specified using XML.

47. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 40 wherein the data structure is specified using HTML.

48-55. (Canceled)